

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 12, 14-23, and 26 are pending and allowed. By this Amendment, claims 6-9 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter found therein. No new matter has been added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments cancel non-allowed claims 6-9; and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

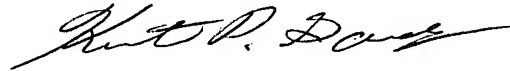
Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 1-5, 12, 14-23, and 26 are allowed.

Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,491,447 to Aihara in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,846,113 to Yeh et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,556,747 to Ouall et al. The rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 6-9. Thus, it is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of allowed claims 1-5, 12, 14-23, and 26 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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